

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAKAR 00580 021000Z

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 OIC-04 SS-20 NSC-10 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5724

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 0580

EO 11652GDS

TAGS: AORG APER SG UNESCO (M'BOW, A.)

SUBJ: CANDIDACY OF AMADOU M'BOW FOR DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF UNESCO

REF: PARIS 2774 DAKAR 469

1. AS DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS WHAT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO
GET FOR OURSELVES OUT OF SUPPORTING M'BOW CANDIDACY,
EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO MAKE CLEAR THAT CHANCES OF SENEGAL
VOTING AGAINST GRUNK OR EVEN ABSTAINING ON CAMBODIA
ISSUE IN FUTURE IN RETURN FOR OUR SUPPORT JUST ABOUT NIL.
DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT PRESIDENT SENGHOR AND
SIHANOUK ARE LONG TIME PERSONAL FRIENDS AND SENEGAL HAS
BEEN IN FOREFRONT OF EFFORTS TO GAIN INTERNATIONAL
RECOGNITION FOR GRUNK.

2. GETTING SENEGALESE TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF OUR INCLUSION
IN EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP WOULD ALSO BE DIFFICULT IF
FRENCH DECIDE LOBBY AGAINST IT. ONLY APPROACH TO GOS
HERE WITH ANY CHANCE OF EFFECTIVENESS WOULD HAVE TO BE
AT HIGHEST LEVEL, AND EFFORT TIE THIS ISSUE TO OUR
SUIPORT FOR M'BOW WOULD LIKELY BE DEEPLY RESENTED THERE.
OUR RECOMMENDATION ON THIS ISSUE WOULD BE LOW KEY
APPROACH TO M'BOW, AMBASSADOR TO UNESCO BLAISE SENGHOR
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IN PARIS, OR POSSIBLE TO AMB. COULBARY, BUT AVOIDING

DIRECT LINKAGE THESE TWO QUESTIONS.

3. EMBASSY SEES LITTLE TO BE GAINED THROUGH
OSTENTATIOUS PUBLICIZING OF USG ENDORSEMENT OF M'BOW.
OUR FEELING IS BEST MEANS SECURING AFRICAN APPRECIATION
OUR SUPPORT OF MBOW CANDIDACY, WOULD BE TO PERMIT OUR
EMBASSIES IN AFRICAN CAPITALS SO INFORM HOST GOVERNMENTS
AT APPROPRIATE MOMENT. WOULD LIKE REMIND DEPARTMENT PER
DAKAR 0469 THAT WE BELIEVE FIRST PERSON TO BE INFORMED
SHOULD WE DECIDE ENDORSE M'BOW IS PRESIDENT SENGHOR. IT

IS WITH HIM THAT ENDORSEMENT IS LIABLE TO GAIN US MOST
CREDIT AND FUTURE SENEGALESE SUPPORT.
AGGREY

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